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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,942	12/04/2001	Christopher G. Ramsayer	7000-083	2747
27820	7590	02/08/2005	EXAMINER	
WITHROW & TERRANOVA, P.L.L.C.			LIM, KRISNA	
P.O. BOX 1287			ART UNIT	
CARY, NC 27512			PAPER NUMBER	

2153

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/006,942	Applicant(s) RAMSAYER ET AL.	
	Examiner Krisna Lim	Art Unit 2153	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Art Unit: 2153

1. Claims 1-29 are presented for examination.
2. The title of the invention is neither descriptive nor precise. A new title is required which should include, using twenty words or fewer, claimed features that differentiate the invention from the Prior Art. The title should reflect the gist of or the improvement of the present invention.
3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christy [U.S. Patent No. 6,725,264].
5. Christy discloses (e.g., see Figs. 1-23) the invention substantially as claimed. Taking claims 1-4, ^{and} 6-7 as exemplary claims, the reference discloses a system for providing a composite user agent (a cluster) for a plurality of devices in a user domain (e.g., see col. 2, lines 54-62, col. 3, lines 10-32, col. 8, line 47, to col. 9, line 35)), the system comprising: a) an interface (col. 3, lines 31-32) and it is not shown in Figs. 3A, 4 and 5); and b) a control system associated with the interface and adapted to represent the plurality of devices within the user domain as a single user agent to devices outside the user domain (e.g., see col. 2, lines 44-67, col. 3, lines 21-32).
6. While Christy discloses the use only a single IP address to configure and manage several different devices as a single network entity (cluster) and the use only a cluster commander to redirect and to translate network

management message from one or more management consoles destined for member devices so that the messages are processed by the appropriate cluster devices (e.g., see col. 2, lines 44-47, col. 3, lines 21-32, Fig. 9), Christy does not explicitly detail the steps of receiving an incoming message, determining a media type, identifying which devices that support the media type and routing the incoming message to the devices that support the media type, etc. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to recognize that the teaching of Christy as mention above would have been obviously included those detail steps in order for the cluster commander to redirect and translate the message to the appropriate devices because in order to redirect and translate the message to the appropriate devices such detail steps would have been obvious performed in order to achieve such functions.

7. As to claim 5, Christy discloses each of plurality of devices is registered in the user domain (e.g., see col. 2, lines 49-53).

8. As to claims 8-9, Christy discloses the use of session initiation protocol (e.g., see SNMP network 300 of Fig. 3A); the single user agent (cluster) is a SIP user agent (SNMP agent 360 of Fig. 3A), each of the plurality devices includes a SIP agent (SNMP agent 360); and the session message is a SIP message (e.g., see request and response message of Fig. 3A); and the control system acts as a SIP proxy (commander device 410 of Figs. 4, 5 and 8) for the SIP user agents of the plurality of devices.

9. Claims 10-29 are similar in scope as of claims 1-9, and therefore claims 10-29 are rejected for the same reasons set forth above for claims 1-9.

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The references are cited in the Form PTO-892 for the applicant's review.

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A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krisna Lim whose telephone number is 571-272-3956 the examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess, can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KI

February 5, 2005



KRISNA LIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER